

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): J.G. Nadeau et al.

SERIAL NO.: to be assigned GROUP:

FILING DATE: March 8, 2004 EXAMINER:

FOR: PROBES AND METHODS FOR DETECTION OF NUCLEIC ACIDS

Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL
SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE
ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND
TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

ON: March 8, 2004
(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

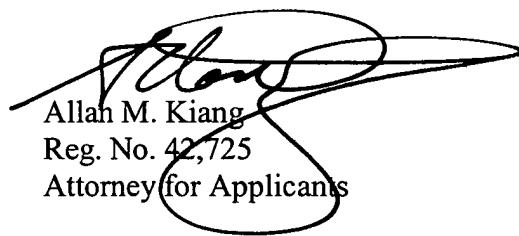
BY: Donna M. Baumann
(NAME OF DEPOSITER)

Donna M. Baumann 3-8-04
(SIGNATURE) (DATE)

Sir:

Prior to the examination, please amend the claims as indicated in the "Amendments to the Claims" beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Respectfully Submitted,


Allah M. Kiang
Reg. No. 42,725
Attorney for Applicants

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